

~~SECRET~~

25X1X7

1901/62

17 December 1962

25X1X7

13. [REDACTED], para. 21). We have little evidence of stock piling of air supplies in the Tibetan area. We believe that if the Chinese exerted a maximum effort, they might be able to deliver a total of 2,240 short ton daily to the Tibetan area, including 2,000 short tons by road and 240 tons by air (assuming the use of 175 civil and military aircraft). They could divert some 500 short tons of this potential maximum to support air operations against India. However, it is not likely that the Chinese would choose to make such an all out effort. Some 12 transports (8 at Hotien and 4 at Lhasa) are probably already operating in the area. We believe that up to 50 small transport aircraft could be diverted to support operations against India without imposing unacceptable restrictions on the overall Chinese air transport system. Each transport sortie could average probably a maximum of two tons. Under optimum conditions, the 50 transports diverted to the Tibet area could supply some 60 short tons daily for a sustained period from railroads in China Proper. Currently, the total tonnage delivered into Tibet by road and air is estimated to be 500 to 700 tons daily.

REVISED: 17 December 1962

~~SECRET~~